

MARCH 11, 2016

TAVIS D. LEAKE  
SEDGWICK COUNTY FIRE CHIEF  
7750 N. WILD WEST DRIVE  
PARK CITY, KANSAS 67147

DEAR CHIEF LEAKE,

THE BEL AIRE TREE BOARD WISHES TO HONOR  
THE WOMEN AND MEN OF THE SEDGWICK COUNTY  
FIRE DEPARTMENT WHO DAILY RISK THEIR LIVES  
TO SAVE THE LIVES AND PROPERTY OF COUNTY  
RESIDENTS THREATENED BY FIRE OR OTHER  
CATASTROPHIC EVENTS. WE WISH TO PLANT A  
SURVIVOR TREE SAPLING ON THE NORTH SIDE OF  
FIRE STATION NUMBER 37. THIS TREE WAS  
GROWN FROM A SEED FROM THE NATIVE  
AMERICAN ELM THAT SURVIVED THE BLAST FROM  
THE MURRAH BUILDING ON 4-19-1995 WHERE  
168 MEN WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE KILLED.

THE TREE WAS IMPALED WITH SHRAPNEL FROM  
THE EXPLOSION AND WAS SCHEDULED TO BE CUT  
DOWN, WHEN BEFORE THAT EVENT IT PUT FORTH  
BUDS AND WAS OBVIOUSLY ALIVE. IT IS OVER 100  
YEARS OLD AND IS NOW THE BEST CARED FOR  
TREE IN THE UNITED STATES AND IS NOW PART OF  
A NATIONAL MEMORIAL. THE CITY OF BEL AIRE  
WOULD CONSIDER IT AN HONOR TO DONATE AND  
PLANT THIS TREE ON YOUR SITE.

GUY MACDONALD  
PRESIDENT  
BEL AIRE CITY COUNCIL  
(316) 744-2501